and enhance the ecological sustainability in its development path. Under the NAPCC a 'National Water Mission' and a 'National Mission on Sustaining Himalayan Eco-System' are being evolved for finding scientifically backed eco-friendly strategies through multi-pronged, long term and integrated studies.

**Non-strategic data**

3585. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to make non-strategic data accessible to public;

(b) if so, what would be the mode of its accessibility; and

(c) whether the information will be made available under the RTI mechanism, or it will be simply put on official website of the Ministry and department concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has made non-strategic data available to public through Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005. The Departments under the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Earth Sciences to have mechanisms of updating their respective websites with non-strategic data that is used by public. In addition, non-strategic information is also being provided to individuals against their application made under the RTI etc.

**Global warming**

3586. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether recent reports stating that due to global warming Himalayan glaciers have been receding at a faster pace than thought to earlier have come to his notice;

(b) the actual position in the matter with relevant details;

(c) the environmental, hydrological and demographic implications of this apparently alarming development for country over coming decades; and

(d) the action Government proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Recent kinematic Global Positioning System (GPS) survey of glacier terminus of Gangotri and Milam glacier indicate a 'slow down' in the rates of recession post 1971 from 17.15 meters per annum (approximately) to 11.95 (+/-0.04) meters per year.

(d) The Governmental of India under its National Action Plan on Climate Change has identified a National Mission on 'Sustaining Himalayan Eco-System' to have a deeper understanding of the glacier dynamics in the Himalaya in the context of the climate change and envisages to investigate the impact on the entire Himalayan eco-system and the life and livelihood of the population. As a part

of this initiative, the Goverment has estalished a National Centre for Research in Glaciology at Dehradun to institutionalize glaciology research in India, and is endeavoring to strengthen the observational and monitoring networks as well as, network the knowledge institutions and strengthen their research capacity for co-ordinated research.

**Thin Film Composite**

3587. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a CSIR laboratoy has developed a Thin Film Composite (TFC) reverse osmosis (RO) high flux memorandum for recovering process water for industrial use from domestic sewage through tertiary treatment;

(b) whether the technique has been used on a mass scale for treatment of water;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI), Bhavnagar, Gujarat, (a constitutent lab. of CSIR) has developed and scaled up Thin Film Composite (TFC) Reserve Osmosis (RO) membrane technology. The technology is used primarily for drinking water application through desalination of brackish and seawater.

(b) Yes, Sir. Ten technique has been used on a mass scale for treatment of water.

(c) A list of various water treatment units that have been set up by CSMCRI is provided in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). Since 2000, CSMCRI has installed 53 RO desalination plants of various capacities which also includes. 1 plant in Kenya and 6 plants in Afghanistan. It has also designed and developed 2 mobile RO units which have been used to provide relief in natural Calamity affected areas.

(d) Does not arise.

***Statement***

*List of RO desalination plants installed by CSMCRI since 2000*

| Sl. No. | Location of Plant | State | Capacity LPH* | Year of installation | App. Feed water salinity (ppm)** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Mocha | Gujarat | 1500 | 2000 | 8,000 |
| 2. | Kisari | Rajasthan | 2000 | 2002 | 5,000 |
| 3. | Barmer Airforce station | Rajasthan | 1500 | 2003 | 3,000 |